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<b>REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE) TRANSMITTAL</b>  Subsection (b) of 35 U.S.C. § 132, effective on May 29, 2000, provides for continued examination of an utility or plant application filed on or after June 8, 1995. See the American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA).	Application Number	09/843,838
	Filing Date	April 30, 2001
	First Named Inventor	Hideyuki IJIRI, et al.
	Group Art Unit	2874
	Examiner Name	John M. Hoffman
	Attorney Docket Number	50212-227

This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 of the above-identified application  
**NOTE:** 37 C.F.R. § is effective on May 29, 2000. If the above-identified application was filed prior to May 29, 2000, applicant may wish to consider filing a continued prosecution application (CPA) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.53 (d) (PTO/SB/29) instead of a RCE to be eligible for the patent term adjustment provisions of the AIPA. See Changes to Application Examination and Provisional Application Practice, Interim Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 14865 (Mar. 20, 2000), 1233 Off. Gaz. Pat. Office 47 (Apr. 11, 2000), which established RCE practice.

1. **Submission required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114**

a. ☒ Previously submitted

i. ☒ Consider the amendment(s)/reply under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116 previously filed on June 7, 2004  
(Any unentered amendment(s) referred to above will be entered).

ii. ☐ Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on \_\_\_\_\_

iii. ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_

b. ☐ Enclosed

i. ☐ Amendment/Reply

ii. ☐ Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s)

iii. ☐ Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)

iv. ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_

2. **Miscellaneous**

a. ☐ Suspension of action of the above-identified application is requested under 37 C.F.R. § 1.103(c) for a period of \_\_\_\_\_ months. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; Fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(i) required)

b. ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_

3. **Fees** The RCE fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e) is required by 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 when the RCE is filed.

a. ☒ The Director is hereby authorized to charge the following fees, or credit any overpayments, to Deposit Account No. 500417.

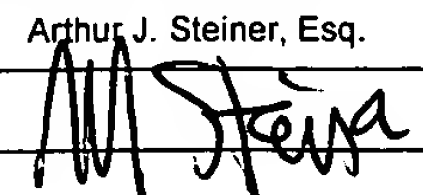
i. ☒ RCE fee required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e) \$770.00

ii. ☒ Extension of time fee (37 C.F.R. §§ 1.136 and 1.17) \$110.00

iii. ☐ Other (additional claims, etc.)

b. ☐ Check in the amount of \$\_\_\_\_ enclosed

c. ☐ Payment by credit card (Form PTO-2038 enclosed)

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT REQUIRED			
Name (Print/Type)	Arthur J. Steiner, Esq.	Registration No. (Attorney/Agent)	26,106
Signature		Date	July 8, 2004

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING OR TRANSMISSION			
I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop RCE, Commissioner for Patents, P. O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 or facsimile transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on the date shown below.			
Name(Print/Type)			
Signature		Date	